

REMARKS

This Amendment cancels claims 11 and 13, and amends claims 1, 7, 8, 12 and 14. The replacement of "an imprint of the antenna" with -- the location where the antenna is to be printed -- makes claims 1 and 7 more definite, and is supported at page 6, lines 6-17, page 10, lines 5-9, page 10, lines 19-25, and Figs. 1 and 4, taken in combination with Figs. 2 and 5, respectively. The dimensionally stable resin feature of claims 1 and 7 is taken from canceled claims 11 and 13. The amendment of claim 8 is merely editorial, while the dependencies of claims 12 and 14 have been changed. Claims 1-10, 12 and 14 are pending.

Entry of this Amendment is earnestly requested, as it is believed (1) to place the application in condition for allowance, (2) not to raise any new issue or require further search, (3) to be directly responsive to the Official Action, and (4) to place the application in even better form for appeal, should such appeal be necessary. In particular, the "dimensionally stable" resin feature of claims 1 and 7 cannot raise a new issue, because this resin property was earlier examined as claims 11 and 13.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-14 over U.S. patent publication No. 2001/0002035 to Kayanakis is respectfully

traversed. A feature of the claimed method and smart card is the deposition/presence of a resin layer which is more dimensionally stable than the antenna support under elevated temperature and pressure. The resin layer is located in a zone on the antenna support, with the zone corresponding to the location where the antenna is to be printed or being slightly larger than the location where the antenna is to be printed. The resin layer provides dimensional stability to the antenna circuit during manufacture of the smart card (Specification, page 13, line 6 to page 14, line 5).

Kayanakis fails to disclose or suggest the thermostable resin layer feature of the claimed method and smart card. Instead, Kayanakis discloses screen printing an antenna directly onto a paper support. See paragraph No. [0026] ("In Fig. 1, the smart card according to the invention consists of a paper support 10 on which the antenna is screen printed...").

Paragraph No. [0032], cited by the Patent Office, does not disclose nor suggest the deposition/presence of a resin layer which is more dimensionally stable than the antenna support under elevated temperature and pressure. As noted by the Examiner, this portion of Kayanakis discloses laminating a paper antenna support to card bodies comprising an internal soft PVC layer 34. Paragraph

No. [0031] states this layer becomes fluid and traps the screen printed part (the screen printed antenna) during the card body laminating process).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have no apparent reason to replace Kayanakis' soft PVC internal layer with a thermostable resin because such a modification would frustrate the intended function of the internal layer - becoming fluid and trapping the screen printed part during the card body lamination process. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claims 1-14 are earnestly requested.

It is believed this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the sole rejection of claims 1-14, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance directed to claims 1-10, 12 and 14, are earnestly requested. The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned should he believe any further action is required for allowance.

A Petition and fee for a three month Extension of Time are attached. It is not believed any additional fee is required for entry and consideration of this Amendment. Nevertheless, the

U.S. Appln. S.N. 10/550,294  
AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

**PATENT**

Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1258 in the amount of any such required fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure:  
Petition for Extension of Time